AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A pneumatic tire comprising

a tread portion ~~pro vided~~ ~~provided~~ with at least one longitudinal groove extending in the tire circumferential direction and blocks adjacent to one side of said at least one longitudinal groove,

each said block provided with a cut-slope on a corner between the top surface and a lateral face of the block, said lateral face facing the longitudinal groove,

said cut-slope inclining towards the bottom of the longitudinal groove, and

the axial width of the cut-slope gradually decreasing from a middle point of the cut-slope towards each side thereof in the circumferential direction, wherein

the circumferential length of the cut-slope is in a range of from 50 to 80% of the circumferential length of said corner of the block, and

in a tire meridian section, the cut-slope has an inclination angle of from 40 to 70 degrees with respect to the normal direction to the tread surface.

2. (Currently Amended) A pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein

the maximum of the axial width at the middle point is in a range of from 20 to 40 % of a groove bottom width of the longitudinal groove at said bottom~~.~~

~~in a tire meridian section, the cut slope has an inclination angle of from 40 to 70 degrees with respect to the normal direction to the tread surface~~.

3. Cancelled.

4. (Currently Amended) A pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein

said block is provided with an axial groove extending from said middle point and terminating in the block.

5. (Currently Amended) A pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein

said at least one longitudinal groove is a circumferentially continuously extending substantially straight groove disposed on one side of the tire equator, and

said blocks are disposed on ~~the other side than the tire equator~~ an axially outer side of the longitudinal groove.

6. (Original) A pneumatic tire according to claim 5, wherein each said block is such that the circumferential length is greater than the axial width, and

on the other side of the longitudinal groove, second blocks are disposed wherein each said second block is such that the axial width is greater than the circumferential length.

7. (New) A pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein said block is provided with an axial groove extending from said middle point and terminating in the block.

8. (New) A pneumatic tire according to claim 7, wherein said at least one longitudinal groove is a circumferentially continuously extending substantially straight groove disposed on one side of the tire equator, and

said blocks are disposed on an axially outer side of the longitudinal groove.

9. (New) A pneumatic tire according to claim 8, wherein

each said block is such that the circumferential length is greater than the axial width, and

on the other side of the longitudinal groove, second blocks are disposed wherein each said second block is such that the axial width is greater than the circumferential length.

10. (New) A pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein

the circumferential length of the cut-slope is in a range of from 57 to 80% of the circumferential length of said corner of the block.

11. (New) A pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein

the cut-slope in the tire meridian section has an inclination angle of from 50 to 70 degrees with respect to the normal direction to the tread surface.